Funds to Madhya Pradesh for potable water

†1145. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Madhya Pradesh had demanded an amount of Rs. 2333 lacks for the schemes of 5 districts affected by the potable water quality *vide* their letters dated November 12, 2002 and January 28, 2003;

(b) whether that amount has been released to the state Government, if not, the reasons thereof; and

(c) by when this amount will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No Sir, for one project funds could not be released due to Audit observation questioning the viability of the project, and for another project funds could not be released due to non-availability of Utilization Certificate for the State Share.

(c) As soon as required documents are received from state Government funds will be released.

Constitution of a separate body for land reforms

†1146. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to constitute a separate body for land reforms and wasteland development;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that there is optimum utilisation of wasteland and land reforms to bring benefit to farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) No Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) For development and productive use of wastelands/degraded lands, the Department of Land Resources in the Ministry of Rural Development is implementing three major area development programmes namely Integrated Wastelands Development Programme (IWDP), Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) on watershed basis. Under these programmes, watershed projects have been sanctioned to cover 16.35 m.ha. of wastelands/degraded lands up to 31st March, 2003.

Distribution of Government wasteland, ceiling surplus land and Bhoodan land has been one of the key strategies of land reforms in the country. Since land is a State subject, this Ministry plays a coordinating and advisory role in this regard and organizes Conferences of Chief Ministers, Revenue Ministers and Revenue Secretaries to monitor the progress from time to time. So far, an area of 147.47 lakh acres of Government wasteland, 21.75 lakh acres of Bhoodan land and 53.94 lakh acres of ceiling surplus land have been distributed to landless rural poor in the country.

Golden Jubilee Rural Self-employment Scheme

†1147. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Golden Jubilee Rural Self-employment Scheme was commissioned in April, 1999.

(b) if so, the target set for creating additional employment opportunities under this scheme;

(c) the amount of funds allocated every year for the purpose; and

(d) since the beginning of this scheme to March, 2003, what was the assessment of target achievement regarding creation of employment every year and the amount allocated each year for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The Swaranjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has been launched as

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.